

# The Positive Youth Project

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# Rationale

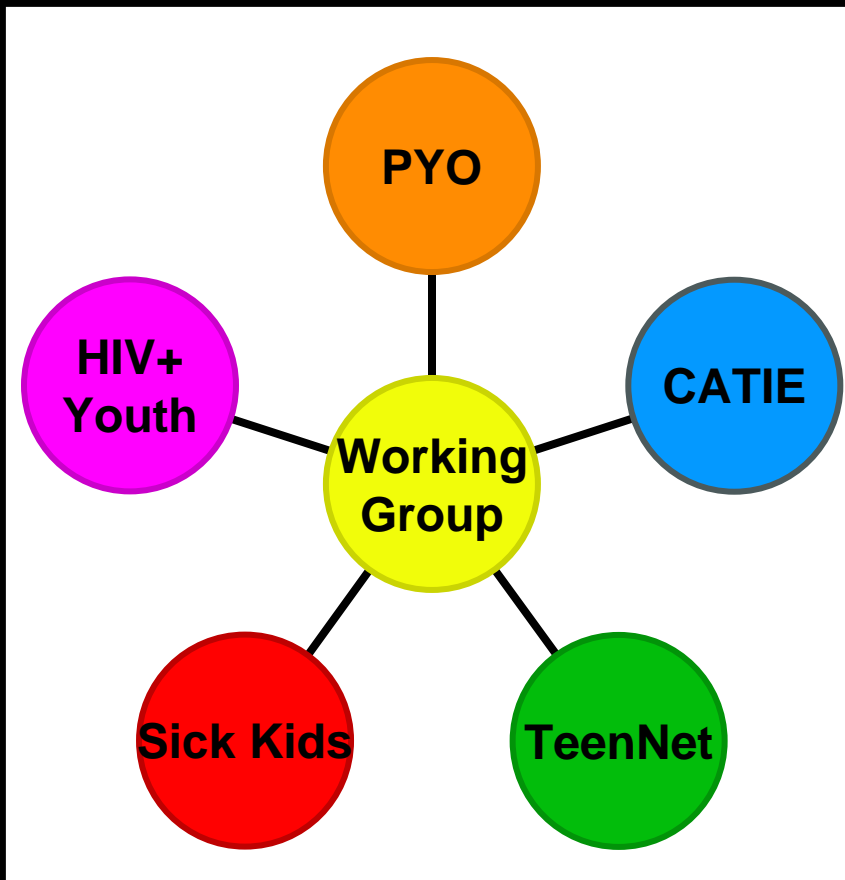
**There is a profound lack of resources for Canadian HIV-positive youth and their families.**

**Partnerships between positive youth-, health- and community-based practitioners and academics are desperately needed to help address this need.**

**The Positive Youth Project is a collaborative initiative to address this need.**

**Our goal is to improve the health of youth infected and affected by HIV through the creation of youth friendly, accessible resources.**

# Working Together



**Partners that sit on the Advisory Committee include:** YouthCO, Canadian AIDS Society, Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network, AIDS Community Care Montreal, Pauktuutit/Canadian Inuit HIV/AIDS Network, the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network, the Ontario AIDS Network and the electronic Child Health Network.

- **Youth living with HIV** involved as co-researchers in all aspects of this project.
- **Positive Youth Outreach (PYO)** is run by HIV+ youth, and provides peer support, education and advocacy services to youth living with HIV/AIDS in the GTA. PYO will bring expertise in service delivery for HIV-positive youth.
- **The Hospital for Sick Children** is a state-of-the-art academic health sciences centre that specializes in the treatment of children and adolescents. The divisions of **Adolescent Medicine** and **Infectious Diseases** will provide medical and research expertise.
- **Canadian AIDS Treatment Information Exchange (CATIE)** is Canada's leading source of treatment information for Canadians living with HIV/AIDS and their caregivers. CATIE will contribute skills in developing and providing HIV/AIDS treatment information for consumers and dissemination vehicles.
- **The TeenNet Project** generates knowledge and develops practical tools for engaging youth in health promotion using technology. TeenNet will contribute extensive youth research expertise and experience in online resource development.

# Objectives

- ***Understanding:*** Explore the barriers and supports needed for Canadian HIV-positive youth to achieve their goals.
- ***Improve Health Behavior & Care:*** Investigate the self-care behaviors of HIV-positive youth and relevant supports and barriers.
- ***Engagement:*** Develop protocols for working in a participatory fashion with HIV-positive youth and best practice guidelines for using technology to disseminate information to this marginalized population.
- ***Create policy guidelines:*** Investigate resource, programming, clinical and policy guidelines to support Canadian HIV-positive youth achieve their goals (including self-care).
- **Address the voiced needs of youth**

## **Project Summary**

**Mobilize Advisory Group & Establish Working Group.**

**Establish Working Group & Collaboratively Develop Protocol**

**Conduct key informant interviews with Ontario HIV+ youth**

**Working Group Collaboratively Analyze Data**

**Host Youth Roundtable for Action**

**Further proposal development**

**Next Steps: Developing Interactive Website , Training Workshops,  
Reinvigorating a national network**



# *Defining Communities and Choosing Partners*

Presentation prepared

by Kirsten Senturia

for CBPR Institute 2005

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# Partners

Presented by: Kirsten Senturia, PhD, Public Health--Seattle & King County (PHSKC)

## •Understanding DV in Nine Ethnic Communities

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Marianne Sullivan, MPH  
East Cherry YWCA  
Seattle Indian Health Board  
Consejo Counseling Services  
Refugee Women's Alliance  
Northwest Network  
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## •DV Social Support Groups

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Cam Nguyen  
Tan Mei Teo  
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## DV in Nine Ethnic Communities

# Description of the project

- Qualitative descriptive CBPR using focus groups and individual interviews
- Assessment of cultural context of DV, access to, and satisfaction with, DV services among ethnic and LGBT survivors of DV
- Cultural communities: African American, Amharic-speaking, Cambodian, Filipina, Latina, LGBT, American Indian/Alaskan Native (AI/AN), Russian-speaking, Vietnamese
- Funded by National Institutes of Justice

## DV in Nine Ethnic Communities

# Origin of the project

- Idea came from Seattle Domestic Violence Council
- Initial plan was to gather prevalence data via telephone survey
- Stakeholders demanded addressing issues for marginalized communities *first*
- Decided to conduct focus groups to better understand DV experience

## DV in Nine Ethnic Communities

# Process of deciding on target communities and partners

- Initial grant proposal to NIJ: African-Americans, Asian-Americans, Latinas, AI/AN
- Additional funding through the city for more groups
- Stakeholder meeting of Seattle DVC to decide on additional groups
- Consideration of ethnicity, disability, marginalized groups (incarcerated women)
- **Balance of stakeholder interests, population numbers, research constraints**
- **Solicitation of interested stakeholders & commitment to collaborate**

## Social Support Groups for DV Survivors

# Description of the project

- Idea developed from previous NIJ-funded project on DV and access to services
- Pilot project to test feasibility of intervention in refugee and immigrant communities
- Social support and skill-building groups
- Cultural communities: Cambodian, Ethiopian, Russian-speaking and Somali
- Funded by CDC through Seattle's Urban Research Center grant

## Social Support Groups for DV Survivors

# Origin of the project

- Follow-up to NIJ funded project: met with partners to assess interest in continuing
- Solicited funding through Seattle Partners/CDC

## Social Support Groups for DV Survivors

# Process of deciding on partners and choosing communities

- ReWA emerged as interested and capable partner; PHSKC & ReWA decide to collaborate
- Initial conversations between researchers and ReWA staff of which communities to follow up with
- Based on earlier research--wanted to include some of those groups
- Value in adding new cultural groups
- Balance of larger and smaller population groups
- Consideration of ReWA staff availability and expertise for particular groups

# For more information:

- Initial NIJ funded research report  
***Cultural Issues Affecting Domestic Violence Service Utilization in Ethnic and Hard to Reach Populations***

<http://www.metrokc.gov/health/dv/dvreport.htm>

- Current project

***We can help each other: Domestic Violence Intervention***

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- Seattle Partners for Healthy Communities

<http://depts.washington.edu/hprc/SeattlePartners/>